

Here is why I urge you to dismiss BellSouth's recent petition. A friend of mine had switched his internet service from one of our local independent Internet Service Providers to a very large corporation offering DSL, believing it to be cheaper. I had to rescue his computer from crashing because certain software had to be installed in order for him to access SBC/Yahoo DSL. He was unable to use the email program that was familiar to him simply because it would not work with their software, for reasons I have yet to fathom. He quickly returned to Sonic.net as his ISP. A small, independent provider offers courteous and knowledgeable service and allows him to use the software he wants to use. If BellSouth is granted its wish to end regulation, quality in everyone's internet service would suffer irreparably. It is already proven that the larger companies' service is NOT a benefit to the consumer! I would hate to see that as our only choice.